

So far as this result can be relied on—and it is almost certain that the statistics relating to standards are more accurate than those relating to age—it seems that about 22 per cent. leave without passing the Fourth Standard, and about 39 per cent. remain after they have passed the Sixth, while those who leave after passing the Fourth and Fifth respectively are about 23 per cent. and 16 per cent. From the other calculation it appears that less than 8 per cent. leave before they are thirteen, and that 45 per cent. remain till they have passed the age of fifteen.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND TEACHERS.

The number of schools open rose during the year from 1,464 to 1,533. Of the 69 additional schools, 68 will be found among the smallest, with average attendance below 20. Half-time schools to the number of 54 are counted as 27 in this enumeration, and three small schools, being under one teacher, are counted as one. The mean of the average attendances at all schools is 71·3; in 1895 it was 73·2.

TABLE J.—NUMBER OF SCHOOLS, DECEMBER, 1896.

(In this enumeration every couple of half-time schools is reckoned as one school, except in the column for number of such schools.)

| Education Districts. | Schools open. | Average Attendance in Fourth Quarter. | Mean Average for One School. | Number of Schools in which the Average Attendance for the Quarter was— | | | | | | | | | | Number of Half-time Schools. | Number of Subsidised Schools. | Schools abolished in 1896. |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | | | Under 15 Pupils. | 15 and under 20 Pupils. | 20 and under 25 Pupils. | 25 and under 30 Pupils. | 30 and under 35 Pupils. | 35 and under 40 Pupils. | 40 and under 45 Pupils. | 45 and under 50 Pupils. | 50 and under 55 Pupils. | 55 and under 60 Pupils. | | | |
| Auckland | 327 | 21,986 | 67·2 | 26 | 45 | 63 | 94 | 38 | 12 | 19 | 14 | 8 | 8 | 42 as 21 | 17 | 2 |
| Taranaki | 57 | 2,979 | 52·3 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 20 | 8 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Wanganui | 123 | 7,942 | 64·6 | 13 | 15 | 10 | 43 | 16 | 2 | 10 | 11 | 3 | .. | .. | 28 | .. |
| Wellington | 118 | 11,097 | 94·0 | 13 | 14 | 12 | 31 | 15 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 5 | 6 | .. | 13 | 2 |
| Hawke's Bay | 64 | 6,251 | 97·7 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 21 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 3 | .. | 5 | .. |
| Marlborough | 60 | 1,792 | 29·9 | 39 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | .. | .. | 40 | 3 |
| Nelson | 112 | 4,873 | 43·5 | 23 | 21 | 14 | 24 | 16 | 4 | 4 | 6 | .. | .. | .. | 33 | 2 |
| Grey | 28 | 1,417 | 50·6 | 12 | 1 | .. | 7 | 5 | 1 | .. | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Westland | 32 | 1,351 | 42·2 | 14 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 2 | .. | .. | 4 as 2 | 14 | 1 |
| North Canterbury | 193 | 17,827 | 92·4 | 19 | 13 | 19 | 61 | 27 | 15 | 12 | 13 | 9 | 5 | 3 as 1 | 13 | 2 |
| South Canterbury | 65 | 4,659 | 71·7 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 33 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | .. | 12 | .. |
| Otago | 218 | 19,264 | 88·4 | 24 | 24 | 19 | 64 | 31 | 15 | 12 | 10 | 10 | 9 | .. | 5 | 1 |
| Southland | 136 | 7,815 | 57·5 | 11 | 17 | 22 | 46 | 13 | 10 | 7 | 8 | .. | 2 | 8 as 4 | 28 | 1 |
| Totals for 1896 .. | 1,533 | 109,253 | 71·3 | 208 | 171 | 180 | 454 | 195 | 80 | 85 | 82 | 44 | 34 | 57 as 28 | 208 | 14 |
| Totals for 1895 .. | 1,464 | 107,222 | 73·2 | 169 | 142 | 188 | 455 | 178 | 92 | 82 | 84 | 46 | 28 | 52 as 26 | 196 | 17 |
| Difference .. | 69 | 2,031 | -1·9 | 39 | 29 | -8 | -1 | 17 | -12 | 3 | -2 | -2 | 6 | 5 as 2 | 12 | -3 |

The number of sewing-mistresses in December was 191, and of other teachers 3,515, including 1,043 pupil-teachers. The increase during the year (including one sewing-mistress) was 130, the largest increase (41) occurring among the women in sole charge of schools, and the next largest (28) in the number of assistant-teachers. The mean number of pupils for one teacher declined during the year from 31·7 to 31·1.

TABLE K.—SCHOOL STAFF, DECEMBER, 1896.

| Education Districts. | Principal. | | Head of School. | | Head of Department. | | Sole Teachers. | | Assistant Teachers. | | Pupil-teachers. | | Total. | | | Average Attendance in Fourth Quarter. | Average Number of Pupils to One Teacher. | Sewing-mistresses |
|------------------------|------------|----|-----------------|----|---------------------|----|----------------|-----|---------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|--------|-------|-------|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | All. | | | |
| Auckland | .. | .. | 118 | 10 | .. | .. | 102 | 97 | 34 | 144 | 50 | 187 | 304 | 438 | 742 | 21,986 | 29·6 | 67 |
| Taranaki | 1 | .. | 18 | 2 | .. | 1 | 18 | 18 | 4 | 12 | 5 | 21 | 46 | 54 | 100 | 2,979 | 29·8 | 26 |
| Wanganui | .. | .. | 54 | 8 | .. | .. | 41 | 20 | 11 | 28 | 24 | 76 | 130 | 132 | 262 | 7,942 | 30·3 | .. |
| Wellington | .. | .. | 52 | 11 | .. | .. | 13 | 42 | 29 | 57 | 22 | 147 | 116 | 257 | 373 | 11,097 | 29·8 | 10 |
| Hawke's Bay | 2 | .. | 27 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 22 | 13 | 33 | 14 | 65 | 64 | 128 | 192 | 6,251 | 32·6 | .. |
| Marlborough | .. | .. | 7 | 4 | .. | .. | 17 | 32 | 2 | 12 | 2 | 11 | 28 | 59 | 87 | 1,792 | 20·6 | 2 |
| Nelson | .. | .. | 29 | 10 | .. | .. | 18 | 55 | 8 | 26 | 6 | 33 | 61 | 124 | 185 | 4,873 | 26·3 | .. |
| Grey | 1 | .. | 8 | 3 | .. | 1 | 8 | 13 | 3 | 13 | 3 | 12 | 18 | 42 | 60 | 1,417 | 23·6 | .. |
| Westland | .. | .. | 8 | 3 | .. | .. | 7 | 14 | 3 | 11 | 3 | 14 | 21 | 42 | 63 | 1,351 | 21·4 | .. |
| North Canterbury | 25 | .. | 82 | 3 | 2 | 30 | 39 | 43 | 35 | 134 | 42 | 103 | 225 | 313 | 538 | 17,827 | 33·1 | 36 |
| South Canterbury | 4 | .. | 29 | 2 | .. | 4 | 12 | 18 | 10 | 28 | 15 | 27 | 70 | 79 | 149 | 4,659 | 31·3 | 18 |
| Otago | .. | .. | 90 | .. | .. | .. | 49 | 79 | 54 | 152 | 24 | 75 | 217 | 306 | 523 | 19,264 | 36·8 | 32 |
| Southland | 17 | .. | 30 | 1 | .. | 17 | 57 | 31 | 11 | 15 | 9 | 53 | 124 | 117 | 241 | 7,815 | 32·4 | .. |
| Totals for 1896 | 50 | .. | 552 | 63 | 3 | 55 | 383 | 484 | 217 | 665 | 219 | 824 | 1,424 | 2,091 | 3,515 | 109,253 | 31·1 | 191 |
| Totals for 1895 | 44 | .. | 540 | 59 | 2 | 49 | 375 | 443 | 205 | 649 | 206 | 814 | 1,372 | 2,014 | 3,386 | 107,222 | 31·7 | 190 |
| Difference .. | 6 | .. | 12 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 8 | 41 | 12 | 16 | 13 | 10 | 52 | 77 | 129 | 2,031 | .. | 1 |